No. 5508 of 1871.

Revenue Department.

Bombay Castle, 2nd November 1871.

Before passing orders in this case, Government desire to know what lands have been included in, and what have been excluded from, "Gaumtulia" (village site) liable to assessment as the property of Government, and on what principle the division has been made. From one or two expressions used in the correspondence, it appears doubtful whether all land held by agriculturists has not been excluded from liability to assessment; if so, the principle is entirely wrong, as Mr. Carey himself admits that such land is fully understood to be the property of Government, and that the usufruct only is the cultivator's.

(Signed) H. E. JACOMB,

Under Secretary to Government.

No. 7 of 1871.

Memorandum.

With reference to the Collector's Endorsement No. 2379, of the 10th instant, forwarding, for report, a Memo. No. 5508, dated the 2nd instant, from the Under Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Mr. Carey has the honour to state that all land in the village site held by cultivators has been excluded from "Gaumtulia" liable to assessment. The total occupied uncultivated area of "Gaumtulia" within the Municipal limits of Balsar is 3,19,874 square yards, as shown in column 8, Appendix A to the report, while the area entered in column 8, Appendix E, as liable to assessment is only 62,123 square yards, the balance of 2,57,751 square yards being held by cultivators. The land held by agriculturists was excluded after consultation with the Superintendent of Survey (Mr. Beyts), not because any doubt was entertained that Government is owner of the land, but for the following reasons:—

(1.) The land constitutes the "Kacha" or homesteads of the cultivators, and under orders from Government cultivators were permitted at the late revenue settlement to hold rent-free